

Ka'Umeke Kā'eo

Hawaiian Immersion Public Charter School

I N K E A U K A H A

URGENT

March 13, 2020

Aloha e nā 'Ohana,

Mahalo in advance for your diligence and understanding while we navigate the challenging and fluid COVID-19 situation. This communication is intended to provide you with updates and Ka 'Umeke's response to protect our haumāna, 'ohana, staff, and communities.

As of today (3/13/2020) there are no confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 within any of the Hilo-Waiakea Complex Area schools. That said, there are a number of cases here in the State of Hawai'i that are being monitored closely by the Department of Health. The health and safety of our haumāna, 'ohana, staff, and community continues to be our top priority. To that end, last night our Governing Board approved the following steps:

STEP 1:

Effective **Monday, March 16, 2020- Sunday, April 19, 2020**, all non- essential community events that bring groups of haumāna, 'ohana, and members of the community together will be canceled or postponed. This includes the following:

- Accreditation Welcome March 29, 2020
- Accreditation Visit March 29- April 1, 2020
- Lā Ho'ohanohano April 1, 2020
- Lā 'Ohana and Mālama Loko April 4, 2020
- Hui 'Ohana Rummage Sale April 4, 2020
- 'Ohana Engagement Days April 15 & 16, 2020
- Merrie Monarch Market April 17, 2020
- Merrie Monarch Paikau April 18, 2020

STEP 2:

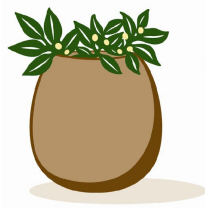
Wā Ho'omaha Kupulau (Spring Break) will be **extended for one week until March 27, 2020** for all haumāna. Haumāna are currently set to return to school on March 30, 2020 (see revised school calendar attached). The week of March 23-27 will be used for kumu and staff to prepare for continued learning opportunities for all haumāna in the event that school is canceled. We want to reiterate that this is a calendar change **NOT A SCHOOL CLOSURE**. Missed instructional days will be made up during the week of April 13-17, 2020. At this time Ka 'Umeke is following the Hilo-Waiakea Complex area as it relates to school dismissals or closures. As such the decision to close a school because of COVID-19 cases will be made through direction from the State Department of Education.

STEP 3:

In efforts to implement "social distancing" we must reduce the number of people coming on to our school campuses. Effective **March 16, 2020 through Sunday April 19, 2020**, we will be limiting visitors and volunteers

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to all school sites. 'Ohana with necessary school business aside from regular drop-offs and pick-ups, are asked to call one of our school ke'ena (808) 933-3482 or (808) 961-0470 before coming on to campus. During this difficult time, staying connected is very important, please do not hesitate to contact your keiki's school site as needed. Any 'ohana that has school business that cannot be taken care of on the phone or via E-mail will be invited on campus. This action will be re-evaluated weekly to ensure school operations and haumāna well-being is not being negatively affected.

Please be reminded that information continues to change daily, if not more frequently than that. Administration is monitoring this very serious situation closely, and filtering the voluminous amounts of information we are receiving in order to make the most informed decisions. We will continue to keep you updated on the situation via our one-call now system and our school website. Please make sure we have your current contact information, if your information needs to be updated contact our registrar at (808) 933-3482.

We recognize that the steps out-lined above will cause some inconvenience and disappointment. Please know that these decisions were heavily discussed by school leaders and are being made out of concern for the health of our entire community. If you have any additional questions please reach out to us. Please be safe, we are all in this together. E lamalama ko kākou 'ili.

E Ola,

Nohea Nahale-a
Po'okumu

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